7/9/85 S6615-2

OREGON LABOR TRENDS

Prepared by Research and Statistics Section

STATE OF OREGON • EMPLOYMENT DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

JUNE 1985

MAY INDICATORS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Oregon		(Seas. Adj.)
May	1985	9.7
Apr.	1985	10.2**
May	1984	9.5
U.S.		
May	1985	7.3
Apr.	1985	7.3
May	1984	7.5

Oregon		1977=100
May	1985	109.1
Apr.	1985	109.1
Mar.	1985	109.4
Feb.	1985	109.6
Jan.	1985	109.3

DIFFUSION INDEX

Oregon		
May	1985	48.8
Apr.	1985	48.1
Mar.	1985	54.7
Feb.	1985	57.0
Jan.	1985	57.0

PRODUCTION WORKER AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

Oregon		
Apr.	1985	38.2
Mar.	1985	38.7
Apr.	1984	39.5

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)

1967=100

ALL URBAN CONSUMERS

Portland MSA		
May	1985	310.4
Yearly Change		+ 2.8%
U.S.		
May	1985	321.3
Yearly Change		+ 3.7

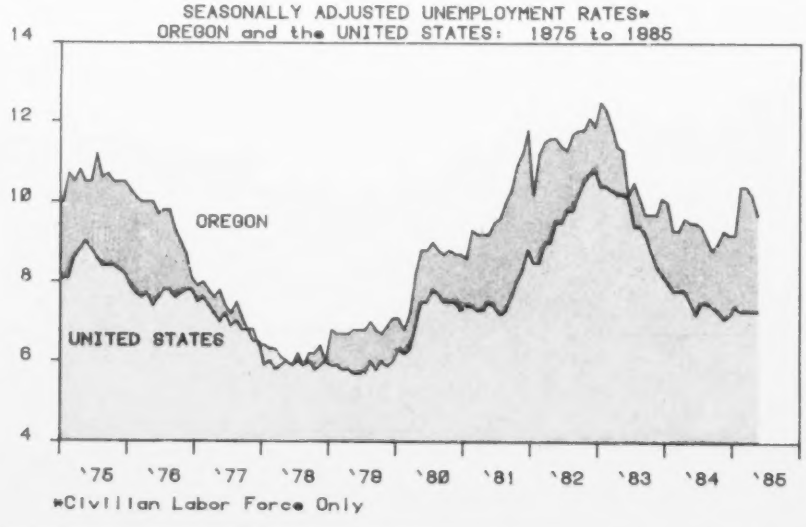
Portland Hotline 221-4132

MONTHLY ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Duane Ackerson

While the seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate in May was the same as April's at 7.3% (a rate that has been unchanged for four consecutive months), Oregon's seasonally adjusted rate, at 9.7%, was down 0.5 from the revised April rate in a month that was modestly encouraging.

In the course of developing the May unemployment estimates, January through April 1985 seasonally adjusted rates were recomputed upward to correct an error in the computerized seasonal adjustment formula. These changes did not affect the raw unemployment rates. Though these revised readings did not bode well for the economy, May still saw the number of unemployed Oregonians fall by 14,500 to 125,600. The seasonally adjusted rate for May was up 0.2 from the 9.5% registered a year before.



**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES REVISED

Due to a programming error, Oregon's seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the period January through April, 1985 have been revised upward as shown below. Raw unemployment rates were not affected by the error.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	January	February	March	April
Revised	9.2	10.4	10.4	10.2
Originally Published	8.0	9.3	9.5	9.6

RESIDENT OREGON LABOR FORCE

	MAY 1985 1/	APR. 1985 2/	CHANGE	% CHANGE	MAY 1984 5/
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 3/	1,308,400	1,318,500	- 10,100	- 0.8	1,340,100
UNEMPLOYMENT	125,600	140,100	- 14,500	- 10.3	126,800
PERCENT OF LABOR FORCE	9.6	10.6	XXX	XXX	9.5
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED PERCENT	9.7	10.2	XXX	XXX	9.5
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT 4/	1,182,800	1,178,400	4,400	0.4	1,213,300

1/ PRELIMINARY. 2/ REVISED. 3/ INCLUDES EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS 16 YEARS AND OLDER. DATA ARE ADJUSTED FOR MULTIPLE JOB-HOLDING AND COMMUTING. 4/ INCLUDES NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY, SELF-EMPLOYED, UNPAID FAMILY WORKERS, DOMESTICS, FARM WORKERS, AND LABOR DISPUTANTS. 5/ DUE TO REVISED ESTIMATING PROCEDURES BETWEEN DECEMBER 1984 AND JANUARY 1985, DATA FOR 1985 AND THAT OF PREVIOUS YEARS ARE NOT STRICTLY COMPARABLE.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(BY PLACE OF WORK)

INDUSTRY	MAY 1985 1/	APR. 1985 2/	MAY 1984	CHANGE FROM APR. 1985	CHANGE FROM MAY 1984
TOTAL 3/	1,024,600	1,015,200	1,004,200	9,400	20,400
WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT INDEX 4/	109.1	109.1	107.0	XXX	XXX
DIFFUSION INDEX 5/	48.8	48.1	60.9	XXX	XXX
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	194,000	192,100	197,100	1,900	- 3,100
DURABLE GOODS	143,400	142,500	145,700	900	- 2,300
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	63,600	62,600	66,000	1,000	- 2,400
LOGGING & SAWMILLS	34,100	32,700	34,900	1,400	- 800
VENEER & PLYWOOD	15,700	16,000	17,400	- 300	- 1,700
MILLWORK & STRUCTURAL WOOD	8,300	8,300	8,100	0	200
MOBILE HOMES	1,500	1,500	1,800	0	- 300
OTHER WOOD PRODUCTS	4,000	4,100	3,800	- 100	200
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	2,600	2,800	2,700	- 200	- 100
STONE, CLAY, GLASS & CONCRETE	2,500	2,400	2,600	100	- 100
PRIMARY METALS	9,100	9,100	9,100	0	0
BLAST FURNACES, IRON & STEEL	5,700	5,700	5,000	0	700
NONFERROUS METALS	3,400	3,400	4,100	0	- 700
FABRICATED METALS	10,100	10,100	10,300	0	- 200
FABRICATED STRUCTURAL METALS	5,000	4,900	4,600	100	400
OTHER FABRICATED METALS	5,100	5,200	5,700	- 100	- 600
MACHINERY	15,400	15,300	15,700	100	- 300
ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	14,200	14,300	13,700	- 100	500
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	8,400	8,300	8,700	100	- 300
INSTRUMENTS & RELATED PRODUCTS	14,500	14,600	14,300	- 100	200
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING	3,000	3,000	2,600	0	400
NONDURABLE GOODS	50,600	49,600	51,400	1,000	- 800
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	20,600	19,800	21,000	800	- 400
CANNING & PRESERVING	10,500	9,900	10,800	600	- 300
OTHER FOOD PRODUCTS	10,100	9,900	10,200	200	- 100
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS	1,600	1,600	1,700	0	- 100
APPAREL	2,400	2,500	2,900	- 100	- 500
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	9,300	8,700	9,000	600	300
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	10,900	11,100	10,900	- 200	0
CHEMICALS & ALLIED PRODUCTS	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0
PETROLEUM REFINING	400	500	500	- 100	- 100
RUBBER & PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2,900	2,800	2,800	100	100
LEATHER PRODUCTS	400	500	500	- 100	- 100

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(BY PLACE OF WORK)

INDUSTRY	MAY 1985	APR. 1985	MAY 1984	CHANGE FROM APR. 1985	CHANGE FROM MAY 1984
(CONT.)					
TOTAL NONMANUFACTURING	830,600	823,100	807,100	7,500	23,500
MINING & QUARRYING	1,500	1,300	1,700	200	- 200
CONSTRUCTION	31,500	29,400	28,600	2,100	2,900
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, & UTILITIES	54,300	54,200	56,400	100	- 2,100
TRANSPORTATION	32,100	32,100	33,700	0	- 1,600
RAILROAD	5,200	5,200	5,400	0	- 200
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSING	17,000	17,100	17,600	- 100	- 600
OTHER TRANSPORTATION	9,900	9,800	10,700	100	- 800
COMMUNICATIONS	13,500	13,500	14,100	0	- 600
UTILITIES	8,700	8,600	8,600	100	100
TRADE	259,400	256,800	250,500	2,600	8,900
WHOLESALE TRADE	65,800	65,900	63,500	- 100	2,300
DURABLE GOODS	38,800	39,000	38,000	- 200	800
NONDURABLE GOODS	27,000	26,900	25,500	100	1,500
RETAIL TRADE	193,600	190,900	187,000	2,700	6,600
GENERAL MERCHANDISE	22,700	22,500	24,100	200	- 1,400
FOOD STORES	30,600	30,300	27,200	300	3,400
AUTO DEALERS & SERVICE STATIONS	25,300	25,100	24,100	200	1,200
OTHER RETAIL TRADE	115,000	113,000	111,600	2,000	3,400
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	68,100	67,800	64,400	300	3,700
BANKING & CREDIT AGENCIES	23,200	23,100	23,500	100	- 300
OTHER FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	44,900	44,700	40,900	200	4,000
SERVICES	211,200	210,900	205,800	300	5,400
HOTELS & PERSONAL SERVICES	23,800	24,200	23,900	- 400	- 100
HEALTH SERVICES	69,100	68,700	67,100	400	2,000
OTHER SERVICES	118,300	118,000	114,800	300	3,500
GOVERNMENT	204,600	202,700	199,700	1,900	4,900
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	30,700	29,800	28,500	900	2,200
STATE GOVERNMENT	56,200	56,100	55,900	100	300
EDUCATION	23,200	23,300	22,900	- 100	300
OTHER STATE	33,000	32,800	33,000	200	0
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	117,700	116,800	115,300	900	2,400
EDUCATION	76,200	75,500	73,100	700	3,100
OTHER LOCAL	41,500	41,300	42,200	200	- 700
LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES	0	800	600	- 800	- 600

1/ PRELIMINARY

2/ REVISED

3/ INCLUDES FULL AND PART-TIME NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN PAY PERIODS INCLUDING THE 12TH OF THE MONTH. PROPRIETORS, SELF-EMPLOYED, PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD WORKERS AND ARMED FORCES EXCLUDED. NOTE: ESTIMATED IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS AND EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION. ALL DATA ARE BASED ON THE 1972 STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (SIC) CODES AS AMENDED BY THE 1977 SUPPLEMENT.

4/ TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, AND INDEXED TO 1977. DATA ON THE EARLIER INDEX (1972 = 100) CAN BE CONVERTED TO THE 1977 BASE PERIOD BY MULTIPLYING BY A FACTOR OF .8264, THE RATIO BETWEEN 1972'S ANNUAL AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT (774,300) AND THAT OF 1977 (936,900).

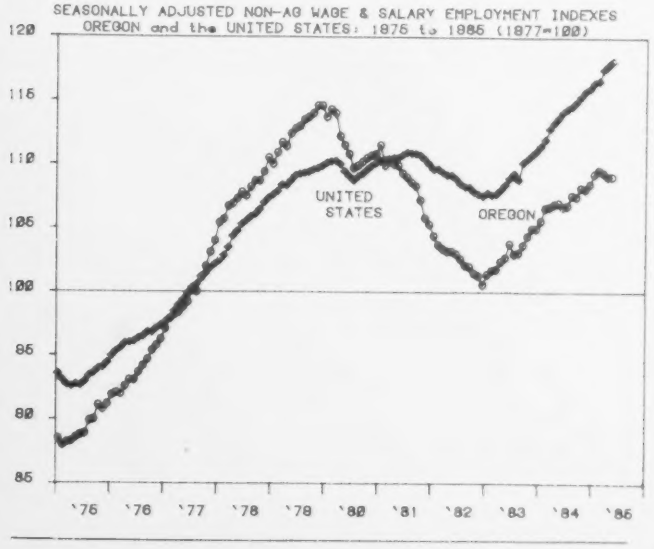
5/ THE DIFFUSION INDEX IS THE PERCENTAGE OF A SELECTED GROUP OF 43 INDUSTRIES SHOWING AN INCREASE IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED EMPLOYMENT. HALF OF THOSE INDUSTRIES SHOWING NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE (LESS THAN 1/2 OF 1%) ARE COUNTED AS INCREASING.

The diffusion index, a leading economic indicator, registered 48.8. This was a gain of 0.7 points from April, indicating that 48.8% of the component industries increased their seasonally adjusted employment in May. Though well below the level of a year before (60.9), the diffusion index, after a one month drop from March to April, was at least moving in the right direction again. (An economic downturn may be looming when the diffusion index falls for several months in succession.)

Another indicator of the economy's performance is the wage and salary employment index, which shows total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, seasonally adjusted and indexed to 1977 (i.e. 1977 average annual employment = 100). May's level, at 109.1, was the same as the revised April index, hinting at a lull in the economy. As with other indicators, though, the message was mixed. Although the index's level in both April and May was the lowest of any month so far in 1985, it was higher than any preceding month in 1982, 1983 and 1984.

From April to May, nonfarm wage and salary employment rose by 9,400 to 1,024,600, an increase that was 800 more than anticipated for this time of year. This total was also 20,400 above that for May 1984, additional evidence of a healthy trend in employment. Of the 800 increase in seasonally adjusted employment, 300 came from manufacturing and 500 from nonmanufacturing.

The main areas to lose ground on a seasonally adjusted basis in May were lumber and wood products; transportation, communications, and utilities; and trade. Lumber and wood products was in its fourth month of sub-par performance (employment rose by 1,000, but this was 300 below the norm for May). Logging fell into the category of industries, but processing of logs into veneer plywood took a skinning, a fact underscored by one permanent plant closure in May. In transportation, trucking and warehousing dropped by 100, instead of adding the usual 300-400 employees. Trade added 2,600 employees in May, but was still 600 below where it should have been seasonally. Retail trade held steady, while wholesale trade fell off, especially in machinery and electrical goods. Of those sectors showing a May decline, lumber and wood products continues to be the most troubling since this backbone of Oregon's manufacturing continues to suffer from lordosis.



Nondurable goods manufacturing, except for food and paper products, held steady at nearly the same level as April. Although the paper and allied products industry showed a gain of 600, most of this "improvement" was accounted for by the end of a labor dispute. Compared with its year ago level, employment in paper and allied products was up only 300. This helped conceal a less than satisfactory picture in printing and publishing, leather products, and apparel. In all three of these industries, employment declined on a month-to-month basis.

Durable goods manufacturing, other than lumber and wood products, remained on an even keel, with losses in furniture, electrical equipment, and instruments offset by gains elsewhere. Both the declines and the increases were modest, generally in the neighborhood of plus or minus 100. Despite month-to-month declines, both electrical equipment (+500) and instruments (+200) were up from a year before.

Several industries showed strong seasonally adjusted employment gains. The largest was in food and kindred products (+600). As anticipated, April saw employment in preserved fruits and vegetables at low ebb, while May, with the start of the harvest season and the new pack, actually jarred expectations by producing five hundred more jobs than anticipated. Construction also registered a large seasonally adjusted gain (+500). Heavy construction employment was 500 over a year ago, and 1,600 above two years ago. Though some of government was below normal seasonal employment levels, a surge in employment in natural resource-based federal and state agencies and community colleges resulted in a seasonally adjusted gain in government employment comparable to that in construction (+500).

Services gained 300, over-the-month, largely due to increased employment in nursing homes and other health services outside hospitals. As pointed out in last month's economic analysis, the service industries' work force has grown steadily from an annual average of 162,600 in 1977. May's employment in this sector totalled 211,200, up 5,400 from a year before. This strong employment growth in services reflects a national trend.

The impact of a sluggish housing market continued to be felt in real estate employment, which normally shows an increase in employment in May, but did not do so this year. Credit for the 200 seasonally adjusted employment increase in the finance, insurance and real estate sector must go to its other components/insurance carriers and credit agencies.

In short, May was a month of mixed signs, with the wage and salary employment index unchanged, the diffusion index up slightly, unemployment down half a point, and nonagricultural wage and salary employment up a moderate 800 on a seasonally adjusted basis. It would seem that Oregon's economy is, at the moment, taking a breather.□

OREGON DIFFUSION INDEX

Earl Fairbanks

In November 1981, a new Oregon economic indicator was introduced which provided further clues to changes in the state's business cycle. Called the "Oregon diffusion index", it was designed after the national diffusion index which is considered an important "leading" indicator of the nation's short term economic future.

In a nutshell, the diffusion index shows the percent of industries in which seasonally adjusted employment increased during the month. A reading of 50.0 means that employment was growing in the same number of industries in which employment was declining. It is a leading indicator in the sense that a rise or fall in the index often precedes similar changes in the economy by three to nine months.

More specifically, Oregon's diffusion index is a composite measure of employment changes in 43 selected industrial categories which includes nearly all payroll workers. Each industry is given equal weight regardless of its number of employees. Thus the base of the index is equally spread (diffused) among the total group.

Component industries were not picked for their employment levels, dollar volume, or historical importance to Oregon's economy. Instead they were chosen for their historic sensitivity to change early in the business cycle. Thus, 75% of the accompanying list is manufacturing - industries which typically lead changes in the economy.

In detail, the diffusion index is computed by first seasonally adjusting the employment in the 24 industries which display significant fluctuations through the year. Secondly, the change from the prior month is calculated for all 43 industries. If there is a significant increase, a value of 1.0 is awarded to that industry; if no significant change (less than half of one percent gain or loss), a value of 0.5 is given; if there was a decrease in employment, a value of zero is assigned. The third step is simply to sum the above and divide by 43 (the number of industries) to find the percent of industries in which employment increased. Finally, since one atypically high or low month may produce a false reading of the overall economic movement, a three-month moving average is incorporated; i.e., the results of step 3 for the current and preceding two months are averaged.

Over the short-term, the diffusion index is especially helpful in understanding economic behavior, although it is not a predictive panacea, as business and economic activity is too complex for any one analytical tool. However, the predictive element of the index is illustrated by the accompanying diffusion index graph. An economic downturn became clear in March 1980 as thousands of wood products employees were laid off in response to the sagging national housing industry. Some evidence was noticed earlier in October and November as isolated mill closures and other negative signs were registered. But the diffusion index had begun a long decline in May 1979. By August, it was apparent that the index had moved enough to cause analysts to start looking for signs of an economic downturn - which, in fact, manifested itself with the start of Oregon's deepest recession since the great depression of the 1930s.

Analysts look at the diffusion index trend over the previous three to six months before making any judgement on what to expect in the economy. This is partly due to the three-month moving average

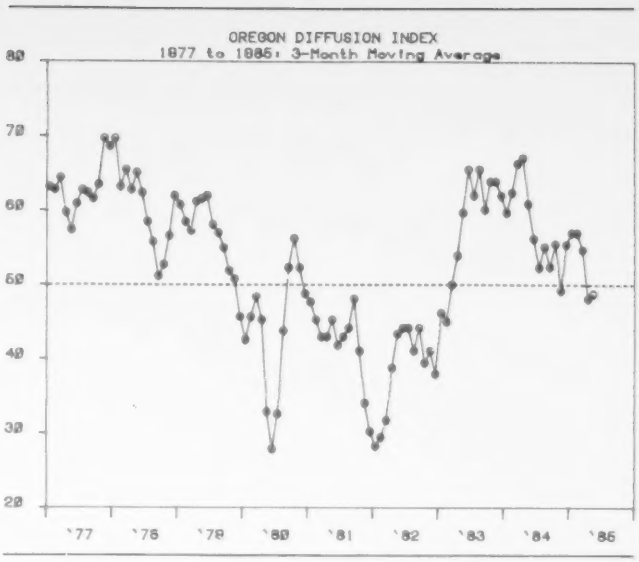
Oregon Diffusion Index

Component Industries	Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)
Manufacturing	
Logging	241
Sawmills	242
Veneer & Plywood	2435,6
Millwork & Structural Wood	2431,4,9,
Mobile Homes & Other	Rest of 24
Furniture	25
Primary Metal - Ferrous	331,2
Primary Metal - Nonferrous	Rest of 33
Fabricated, Structural Steel	344
Fabricated, Other	Rest of 34
Machinery, Construction, & Mining	353
Machinery, Electronic	3573,4
Machinery, Other	Rest of 35
Electrical Equipment	36
Motor Vehicles	3711
Aircraft	372
Shipbuilding & Repair	373
Railroad Equipment	374
Other Transportation Equipment	Rest of 37
Instruments & Related	38
Misc. Manufacturing	39
Canning & Preserving	203,2091
Other Food Products	Rest of 20
Textile Mills	22
Apparel	23
Paper & Allied Products	26
Printing & Publishing	27
Chemicals	28
Petroleum	29
Rubber & Plastics	30
Leather	31
Stone, Clay, & Glass	32
Nonmanufacturing	
Mining & Quarrying	10-14
Heavy Construction	16
Other Construction	15,17
Trans., Comm., & Utilities	40-49
Wholesale Trade	50,51
Retail Trade	52-59
Finance, Insur., & Real Estate	60-69
Services	70-89
Federal Government	N.A.
State Government	N.A.
Local Government	N.A.

computation, but mostly because it may take six months to determine an overall direction in the midst of some intermediate fluctuations.

In 1983 one of the most protracted recessions on record finally gave way to economic recovery. Not only did unemployment peak at more than 180,000 early in the year, but scores of others were working shortened workweeks or at jobs below their educational and skill level. By midyear, unemployment was below the year ago level and Oregon was entering a prolonged period of economic improvement. But this turnaround in the economy was no surprise to diffusion index watchers who had followed the index from December's 38.0 to April's 53.9 and May's 59.7. They realized that the steady increase coupled with an index value above 50.0 was a strong sign of a coming upturn in the economy.

More recently, since reaching a high of 67.1 in April 1984, the index fell to the lower 50s and waffled there until falling to below 50 this last April and May. Oregon's economy, after growing throughout 1984, is performing as expected with the so-so diffusion index readings of mid-1984 through early 1985; i.e., the state's economy has become somewhat stagnant this year.



Watch the index closely for the next few months. If it stays below 50.0 or continues to fall, look for further setbacks in Oregon's economy this fall and winter.□

EMPLOYERS CORNER
CREATIVE JOBLESS PROGRAMS – FRANCE & BRITAIN

Dorothy Monnier

France introduced its Chomeurs Createurs (Creative Jobless) program on an experimental basis in 1979 and made it a national policy a year later. The program allows any French citizen entitled to unemployment compensation or welfare to collect 30,000 francs (about $3,000 at the current exchange rate) in a lump sum to start a business. The amount can be increased to as much as 50,000 francs if the entrepreneur creates another job in addition to his or her own within the first six months.

Initially, only unemployment insurance (UI) recipients were eligible, and the amount they could collect varied according to previous salary. Critics claimed the program was for the benefit of unemployed executives who received substantially more than rank and file UI claimants. As a result, the benefit was made uniform.

Improvements to the program since its beginning include more monitoring and better screening of business proposals. The French also switched the funding from unemployment compensation to general revenues and expanded the program to include welfare recipients as well as UI claimants. As of March 1983, 74,727 jobless people had participated in Chomeurs Createurs, and a government evaluation estimates that between 60 and 80% of the businesses started under the program have survived three years. Officials also estimate that as many as one third of the 110,000 new businesses created in France last year were a result of the program.

A similar British program is based on the belief that many unemployed people would like to start a business but are afraid to because they would lose jobless benefits before they could generate enough income to live on from their new enterprise. The Enterprise Allowance Scheme (EAS) allows qualifying entrepreneurs to collect 40 pounds (currently $45) for up to 52 weeks while their business is getting started. The program also provides a wide range of counseling services and business training.

To be eligible, applicants must: be receiving unemployment benefits, have been out of work for at least 13 weeks, have at least 1000 pounds available to invest in their business, be between 18 and 64 and agree to work full time in the business.

An evaluation of the British system found that most of the new businesses were in the service sector, and 75% were in three industry groups: small repair firms, retail shops, and miscellaneous (mainly auto repair). After 18 months, about 80% of the ventures that survived the first year were still in business. Each new business provided about 1.5 jobs during the first year, increasing to more than 1.65 jobs after 18 months.

During these two months we have looked at alternative programs which could supplement the existing unemployment insurance system. Next month we will review the past 50 years since the current program began.□

HOURS & EARNINGS

Mike Staten

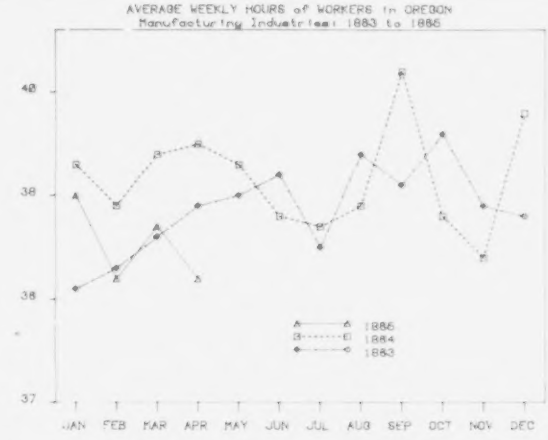
Average hourly earnings for total manufacturing slipped nine cents in April from March's revised level of $10.57. Although the $10.48 reading in April was the highest on record, for that month, it was also the largest percentage decline between March and April in at least 15 years.

Following March's lead, lumber and wood products was the driving force behind the month to month loss. With an average drop of $.18 per hour in lumber and wood products and 40% of manufacturing production workers, gains in the nondurable good manufacturing sectors could not offset the losses posted by most of the wood products industry. Combining this decline and an $.11 per hour drop in average hourly earnings for machinery, 42% of durable goods manufacturing production workers were employed in industries registering hourly earnings declines. Overall, 52% of all manufacturing production workers were in industries noting earnings declines.

Logging and sawmills production worker counts grew 1.6% in April but overtime hours fell 6.9%, both contributing heavily to a $.33 drop in average hourly earnings.

Primary metals saw a 3% increase in overtime hours and a subsequent gain of $.15 in average hourly earnings; total hours, however, fell slightly and the number of production workers remained unchanged.

A labor dispute involving 200 employees in macninery accounted for the $.11 decline in average hourly earnings.



AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF OREGON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WORKERS 1/

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. 2/ 1985	Mar. 3/ 1985	Apr. 1984	Apr. 2/ 1985	Mar. 3/ 1985	Apr. 1984	Apr. 2/ 1985	Mar. 3/ 1985	Apr. 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING 4/	$400.34	$409.06	$412.38	38.2	38.7	39.5	$10.48	$10.57	$10.44
Durable Goods	408.56	417.20	424.60	38.8	39.1	40.4	10.53	10.67	10.51
Lumber & Wood Products	430.10	438.26	439.43	39.1	39.2	40.5	11.00	11.18	10.85
Logging & Sawmills	458.63	468.00	464.94	39.3	39.0	40.5	11.67	12.00	11.48
Veneer & Plywood	434.58	449.65	456.09	39.4	40.4	41.5	11.03	11.13	10.99
Millwork & Struct Wood	332.00	334.28	320.12	37.9	37.9	38.2	8.76	8.82	8.38
Mobile Homes	291.38	265.36	309.00	34.2	32.6	37.5	8.52	8.14	8.24
Other Wood Products	434.93	430.20	464.95	40.8	40.7	42.5	10.66	10.57	10.94
Furniture & Fixtures	266.92	259.92	248.06	34.8	34.2	31.4	7.67	7.60	7.90
Primary Metals	495.68	490.56	498.31	41.9	42.0	42.7	11.83	11.68	11.67
Fabricated Metals	384.33	387.87	382.78	38.9	39.1	38.9	9.88	9.92	9.84
Machinery	401.77	420.82	414.32	38.3	39.7	40.9	10.49	10.60	10.13
Nondurable Goods	374.56	384.38	375.07	36.4	37.5	36.7	10.29	10.25	10.22
Food & Kindred Products	318.85	326.34	312.93	35.0	36.1	35.2	9.11	9.04	8.89
Canning & Preserving	262.74	266.94	254.21	33.3	34.4	33.1	7.89	7.76	7.68
Other Food Products	392.46	407.51	402.43	37.2	38.3	38.4	10.55	10.64	10.48
Textile Mill Products	240.12	232.09	223.94	39.3	37.8	37.2	6.11	6.14	6.02
Apparel	209.07	218.86	208.82	35.8	37.8	36.7	5.84	5.79	5.69
Paper & Allied Products	591.02	586.10	578.45	41.1	40.9	41.2	14.38	14.33	14.04
Printing & Publishing	370.84	408.04	370.36	33.2	36.4	33.7	11.17	11.21	10.99
Construction 4/	489.19	494.33	482.48	35.5	34.4	32.6	13.78	14.37	14.80
Communications & Utilities 5/	486.82	498.15	474.28	40.4	40.5	39.1	12.05	12.30	12.13
Trade 5/	286.85	285.12	290.19	33.2	33.0	34.1	8.64	8.64	8.51
Wholesale Trade	390.53	383.79	389.72	38.1	37.7	37.8	10.25	10.18	10.31
Retail Trade	237.00	237.00	241.60	30.9	30.7	32.3	7.67	7.72	7.48
Banking & Insurance	287.52	282.73	281.33						
State & Local Government	322.19	324.10	316.15						

1/ Figures are average gross hours and earnings of full and part-time worked or paid for, including overtime and shift premium pay. Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor. All data are based on the 1972 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes.

2/ Preliminary

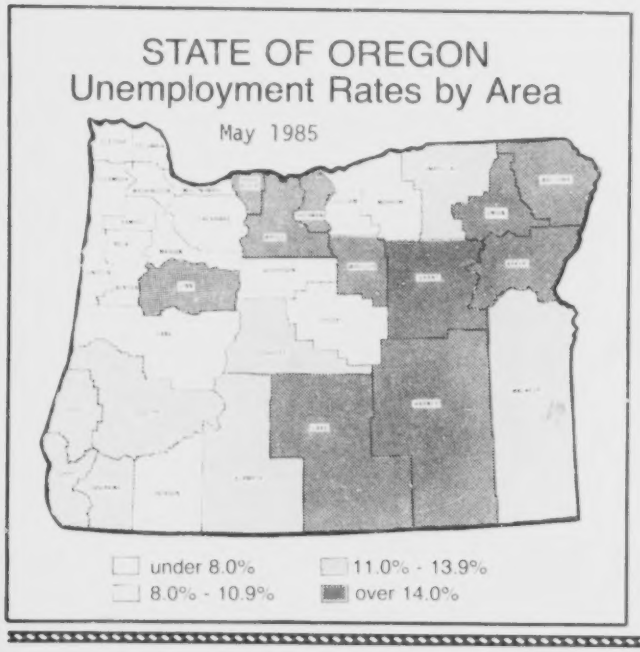
3/ Revised

4/ Data for production workers only and exclude administrative, supervisory (above working foremen), technical, sales and office personnel.

5/ Data for nonsupervisory employes only, excluding proprietors and executive personnel. Data for retail trade excludes eating and drinking places.

While the number of employees and average weekly hours in construction were rising, the average hourly earnings were dropping. This was not at all unhealthy in view of the vast improvement construction has made over the past year: 2,400 more employees and a gain of 2.9 hours per week. This industry was one of the hardest hit by the last recession, and while it has regained over 7,000 employees, it remains nearly 30,000 below the August 1979 peak of 59,300.

A summary of hours and earnings in April for Oregon can be broken out into two major categories: lumber & wood products and construction. The positive trends in the construction industry are definitely encouraging but don't even begin to offset the movements in lumber and wood products; movements which are riding "on the brink" and appear fully capable of falling off with the slightest negative influence.□



State of Oregon Unemployment Rates by Area

May 1985

	Civilian Labor Force	Total Employment	Unempl.	Rate
STATE OF OREGON	1,308,400	1,182,800	125,600	9.6
Eugene MSA 1/	129,700	116,500	13,200	10.2
Medford MSA 2/	63,710	56,970	6,740	10.6
Portland PMSA 3/	605,400	557,700	47,700	7.9
Salem MSA 4/	119,500	108,600	10,900	9.1
Baker	6,790	5,810	980	14.4
Benton	31,850	29,910	1,940	6.1
Clatsop	15,450	14,260	1,190	7.7
Columbia	16,640	15,120	1,520	9.1
Coos	25,870	22,310	3,560	13.8
Crook	5,620	5,020	600	10.7
Curry	6,410	5,550	860	13.4
Deschutes	31,870	28,110	3,760	11.8
Douglas	40,570	35,300	5,270	13.0
Gilliam	780	750	30	3.8
Grant	3,430	2,830	600	17.5
Harney	3,420	2,870	550	16.1
Hood River	7,730	6,480	1,250	16.2
Jefferson	5,280	4,780	500	9.5
Josephine	23,780	21,160	2,620	11.0
Klamath	25,190	22,070	3,120	12.4
Lake	3,390	2,870	520	15.3
Lincoln	18,080	16,110	1,970	10.9
Linn	37,810	31,950	5,860	15.5
Malheur	11,020	9,680	1,340	12.2
Morrow	4,950	4,510	440	8.9
Tillamook	8,910	7,970	940	10.5
Umatilla	27,490	24,270	3,220	11.7
Union	10,980	9,380	1,600	14.6
Wallowa	3,800	3,130	670	17.6
Wasco-Sherman	12,590	10,510	2,080	16.5
Wheeler	550	460	90	16.4

1/ Lane County
2/ Jackson County
3/ Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill counties
4/ Marion and Polk counties

OREGON LABOR TRENDS

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